

Administration on Aging Forms Public/Private Partnership with Grantmakers In Aging (GIA) to Launch a New "Hurricane Fund for the Elderly"

To provide additional assistance to elderly individuals impacted by hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Assistant Secretary Carbonell announced today a Private/Public Partnership with Grantmakers in Aging (GIA) to launch a new "Hurricane Fund for the Elderly." This fund is a new vehicle for directing philanthropic dollars and resources to meet the needs of older adults affected by the two recent hurricanes in the Gulf States.

Contributions are being accepted from foundations, the corporate sector, non-profit organizations and individual citizens.

"We applaud GIA for responding to an invitation from us to establish a fund targeted for this population," said Assistant Secretary Carbonell. "This is another example of the National Aging Network's generous support to assist with the immediate and long-term recovery efforts in those communities hardest hit by these hurricanes."

Two GIA members, The Atlantic Philanthropies and The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, have already committed significant support both to administer the Hurricane Fund and to place monies in the fund itself. The aim is to ensure that 100 percent of dollars raised by the Fund go to projects that provide for the emergency, intermediate, and long-term needs of older adults.

"GIA is proud to step forward with AoA to spearhead this new effort," said Carol A. Farquhar, GIA Executive Director. "The nation has opened its heart in response to these disasters, and we are pleased to create a trusted mechanism for foundations and individuals to help older adults - and the systems that serve them - get back on their feet."

GIA is now working in partnership with AoA and other interested parties to create a National Advisory Committee of leaders in aging, disaster relief, and representatives from the Southeastern region of the country. This group will develop targeted objectives, guidelines, and procedures for the Fund.

To learn more about the "Hurricane Fund for the Elderly" please contact Grantmakers In Aging at HurricaneFund@GIAging.org or by phone at 888-435-3156 beginning October 25.

Donations can be made to the "Hurricane Fund for the Elderly" and mailed to Grantmakers In Aging, 7333 Paragon Road, Suite 220, Dayton, OH 45459.

Grantmakers In Aging (GIA), with headquarters in Dayton, Ohio, is dedicated to promoting and strengthening grantmaking for an aging society. GIA's membership includes leading staff and trustees from all sizes and types of foundations involved directly or indirectly with aging. Go online for more information at <http://www.GIAging.org>.

Additional Hurricane Relief Resources:

- <http://www.aarp.org/katrina/>